WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:



1. An absorbent article comprising:

a front waist region, a back waist region, and a crotch region extending between the waist regions,

a first ear panel formed of a first material extending from a first edge portion of the front waist region;

a second ear panel formed of a second material different from the first material extending from a first edge portion of the back waist region; and

at least one manually tearable passive bond connecting the first ear panel and the second ear panel together.

- 2. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the second material has a basis weight of at least about 20 gsm.
- 3. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the first material has a basis weight of less than about 20 gsm.
- 4. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the second material has a basis weight of at least about 30 gsm.

ETK/S

KCC-2102 55

- 5. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the first material and the second material each has a basis weight of at least about 20 gsm.
- 6. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the first material and the second material each has a basis weight of about 30 gsm to about 60 gsm.
- 7. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the second material has a peak load grab tensile strength of about 8.5 lbs. to about 100 lbs.
- 8. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the first ear panel is passively bonded to the second ear panel by one of sonic welding, adhesive bonding, thermal bonding and combinations thereof.
- 9. The prefastened absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the first material comprises a point bonded nonwoven material.
- 10. The prefastened absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the second material comprises a laminate having at least one film layer positioned between two layers of polypropylene spunbond material.

KCC-2102 56 ETK/S

- passive bond has a peel strength of less than about 5000 grams.
- 12. The prefastened absorbent article of claim 1 wherein each passive bond has a peel strength of about 1500 grams to about 3000 grams.
 - 13. An absorbent article comprising:

an absorbent chassis including a front waist region, a back waist region, and a crotch region which extends between the front waist region and the back waist region;

a first side panel operatively connected to the front waist region;
a second side panel operatively connected to the back waist region; and
a seam connecting the first side panel and the second side panel,
wherein the second side panel has a basis weight greater than a basis
weight of the first side panel.

- 14. The absorbent article of claim 13 wherein the second side panel has a basis weight greater than about 20 gsm.
- 15. The absorbent article of claim 13 wherein the second side panel has a basis weight greater than about 30 gsm.

KCC-2102 57 ETK/S

- 16. The absorbent article of claim 13 wherein the first side panel has a basis weight less than about 20 gsm.
- 17. The absorbent article of claim 13 wherein the first side panel has a basis weight less than about 30 gsm.
- 18. The absorbent article of claim 13 wherein each of the first side panel and the second side panel has a basis weight of about 15 gsm to about 150 gsm.
- 19. The absorbent article of claim 13 wherein each of the first side panel and the second side panel has a basis weight of about 20 gsm to about 100 gsm.
- 20. The absorbent article of claim 13 wherein each of the first side panel and the second side panel has a basis weight of about 30 gsm to about 60 gsm.
- 21. The prefastened absorbent article of claim 13 wherein the seam has a peel strength of at least about 100 grams to about 600 grams.
- 22. The prefastened absorbent article of claim 13 wherein the seam has a peel strength of at least about 200 grams to about 400 grams.

KCC-2102 58 ETK/S

23. An absorbent article comprising:

an absorbent chassis including a front waist region, a back waist region, and a crotch region which extends between the front waist region and the back waist region;

a first side panel connected to the front waist region;

a second side panel connected to the back waist region; and

a passive bond connecting the first side panel to the second side panel to form a releasable side seam,

wherein the second side panel has a basis weight greater than a basis weight of the first side panel.

- 24. The absorbent article of Claim 23 wherein the passive bond includes one of a thermal bond, an adhesive bond and an ultrasonic bond.
- 25. The absorbent article of Claim 23 wherein the passive bond comprises at least one of discrete point bonds, dashed lines, continuous lines, discontinuous lines and combinations thereof.
- 26. The absorbent article of Claim 23 wherein the passive bond is one of circular, oval, rectangular, square and triangular.

KCC-2102 59 ETK/S

- 27. The absorbent article of Claim 23 wherein a passive bond pattern comprises a plurality of ultrasonic point bonds, each having a surface diameter of about 0.010 inch to about 0.125 inch.
- 28. The absorbent article of Claim 23 wherein a passive bond pattern comprises a plurality of ultrasonic point bonds, each having a surface diameter of about 0.030 inch to about 0.118 inch.
- 29. The absorbent article of Claim 23 wherein a passive bond pattern comprises a plurality of ultrasonic point bonds, each having a height of about 0.015 inch to about 0.070 inch.
- 30. The absorbent article of Claim 23 wherein a passive bond pattern comprises a plurality of ultrasonic point bonds wherein each point bond has a height of about 0.030 inch to about 0.040 inch.
- 31. The absorbent article of Claim 23 wherein a passive bond pattern comprises a plurality of ultrasonic point bonds, each having a height of about 0.035 inch.

KCC-2102 60 ETK/S

- 32. The absorbent article of Claim 23 wherein the passive bond/forms a zig-zag bond pattern.
- 33. The absorbent article of Claim 23 wherein the passive bond forms a generally curved bond pattern.
 - 34. A convertible absorbent article comprising:
- a front waist region, a back waist region, and a crotch region extending between the waist regions,
- a first ear panel formed of a first material extending from a first edge portion of the front waist region;
- a second ear panel formed of a second material different from the first material extending from a first edge portion of the back waist region; and
- at least one manually tearable passive bond connecting the first ear panel and the second ear panel together, wherein the passive bond has a peel strength of less than about 5000 grams.
- 35. The convertible absorbent article of Claim 34 further comprising a refastenable fastener connected to one of the first ear panel and the second ear panel.

KCC-2102 61 ETK/S



- 36. The convertible absorbent article of Claim 34 wherein the passive bond has a peel strength of less than about 3000 grams.
- 37. The convertible absorbent article of Claim 34 wherein the passive bond has a peel strength of less than about 2500 grams.
- 38. The convertible absorbent article of Claim 34 wherein the passive bond has a peel strength of less than about 2000 grams.
 - 39. A convertible absorbent article comprising:

a front waist region, a back waist region, and a crotch region extending between the waist regions,

a first ear panel formed of a first material extending from a first edge portion of the front waist region;

a second ear panel formed of a second material different from the first material extending from a first edge portion of the back waist region;

a fastener connected to the second ear panel, the fastener not connected to the front waist region; and

at least one manually tearable passive bond connecting the first ear panel and the second ear panel together.

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